Besides above, after the recent incidents of alleged attacks on minorities, the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to the District law enforcing authorities to respond immediately to the complaints of atrocities/ harassment of minorities and initiate prompt and effective action to identify and punish the guilty persons.

It is also the endeavour of the Government to deal with all acts of violence against the minority communities, whenever and in whatever form they occure, with firmness and to award exemplary punishment to the perpetrators.

Illegal Drugs trade by peddlars

855. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the thriving illegal drugs trade being carried out by the peddlars in the busy markets of the city;

(b) if so, whether the city markets where drugs trade is being clandestinely carried out, have been identified besided the racket involved in such trade;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what precise measured have been taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member has Delhi city in mind. There have been some significent seizuer in Delhi during the current year, on 7.6.99 14.5 Kgs of heroin, 1.10 Kgs. of opium and 175 gms of poppy granules were seized from a farm house located in Nangloi in Delhi which also resulted in the arrest of a notorious underworld operator of Mumbai and his asociates which included five Srilankans. This resulted in busting of a narcotics trafficking racket between Delhi and Sri Lanka. On 29.11.99, Enforcement officials also busted an illicit heroin manufacturing unit at Azad Market area of Delhi along with arrest of two persons. In the course of follow-up investigation of seizure of 18.830 Kgs. of heroin and arrest of one

Sayyed Abdul Ala at Bangalore, business premises of the accused at Bhagirath Place and residences at New Friends Colony and Teliwara Azad Market, New Delhi were also searched which resulted in recovery of 32.5 Kgs. heroin and 70 litres of Acetic Anhydride, a precursor chemical used for manufacturing of heroin.

(d) Instructions have been issued to all the Enforcement Agencies to maintain utmost vigil and to step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotrophic Substances Act. Drug Enforcement Officers are also being trained to improve their effectiveness. Quarterly Coordination meetings are being held by the Narcotics Control Bureau, New Delhi for proper coordination of drug enforcement efforts by all the concerned Central and State agencies in the country. Reward scheme for informers and Enforcement Officers is also being implemented vigorously.

Special recruitment from Assam

856. DR. (MRS.) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps Government would like to take for special recruitment from Assam in Army, CPMF, Railways and Central PSUs, so that the unemployed youths are prevented from joining the insurgent groups for their immediate economic needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): The Government have no proposal for special recruitment from Assam in Army, Central Para-Military Forces, Railways and Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Surrender of Dawood Ibrahim

†857. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the underworld don Dawood Ibrahim had expressed his desire to surrender before the Indian Police;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.